



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

S E C R E T

October 22, 1976

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Director for Operations
Central Intelligence Agency
Attention: *[Handwritten mark]*

FROM: Verne F. St. Mars *[Signature]*
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Security

SUBJECT: Free Poland - Special Report Nr 3

Memoranda of October 5 and 12, 1976, with attachments, provided interesting additions to our file on Free Poland.

In reference to the question in paragraph 4 of the memorandum of October 5, Konstanty Zygfryd HANFF is the subject of one of 55 dossiers sent to the Department by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. (State 176458 dated July 16, 1976) These dossiers allege that certain U.S. citizens and permanent residents participated in war crimes during World War II. Attached is a resume of material pertaining to one Konstanty Zygfryd HANFF, who appears to be identical with the editor/publisher of Wolna Polska.

Attachments:
As stated

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2E
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2004 2006

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FOR COORDINATION WITH ed State

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SUBJECT : HANFF, Konstanty Zygfryd
aka: KAREWICZ, Anatol

DPOB : November 2, 1926, Czestochowa (Tschenstochau) Poland

SPOUSE : Cecylia nee: FUKSA March 29, 1932, Lubno, Poland

FATHER : Paul HANFF

MOTHER : Maria nee: GASALABOFF (GAZALABOW)
May 21, 1895, Odessa, Ukraine
aka: GAZELLE, Mary
506 East 13th Street NYC (naturalized 1/56)

PATERNAL
GRANDMOTHER : Elisabeth nee: GOEDE

An anonymous letter, dated in New York City April 3, 1976, was received by Leon ILUTOVICH, President of the Zionist Organization of America, 145 East 32nd Street, NYC 10016. The letter alleges that HANFF was a Gestapo informer in Tschenstochau, Poland and Vilno, Lithuania and associated closely with a Gestapo agent named SCHABELSKI. As a teen-aged informer, HANFF fingered many Jews and former members of the Polish army who were arrested, allegedly tortured and executed. HANFF also later served as a non-commissioned officer in the German army and is alleged to have participated in the execution of Jews in Latvia in 1944.

As a result of the above letter, three former citizens of Tschenstochau, now residing in Israel, were interviewed. The three, Moze ROZANSKI, David GELBHAUR and Menachem (Mendel) BIRENHOLZ, all picked HANFF's photograph from a group of several alleged Nazi War Criminals. All of these men knew HANFF as Siegfried and gave eye-witness accounts of his collaboration with the Gestapo and of his fingering Jewish and Polish targets. They claimed that most of the persons so targetted were arrested, tortured and either executed or sent to Auschwitz. The testimonies of these men covers a period from September 1939 until sometime in 1942. None of them has seen Siegfried since 1942. All three thought Siegfried must have been born prior to 1926, although one said that Siegfried could have been as young as sixteen.

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Accompanying the anonymous letter (which is signed David S.) were three items which had allegedly belonged to HANFF at one time. The first, dated April 15, 1943, reflects that one Konstantin Szegfried HANFF, born November 2, 1926, at Tschenstochau, Poland, had applied for enlistment in the German army as a non-commissioned officer. The second is a questionnaire to Establish the Acquisition of German Citizenship in the Incorporated Eastern Territories. This is dated May 7, 1943; gives the same name and birthdate; father: Paul; mother: Maria nee: GASALABOFF and paternal grandmother: Elisabeth nee: GOEDE. His residence in October and December 1939 was listed as : Wilna, Opferstrasse 4/2. Political District: Eastland, General District: Lithuania. Also mentioned in this form was an older brother Leonhard HANFF, a volunteer with the War Marines, submarine unit, field post No. M 50.159. The third item is a letter bearing HANFF's signature under the "Heil Hitler" greeting. It is addressed to the Mayor of Posen and requests a copy of a naturalization certificate.

HANFF's application for Immigration to the U.S., dated March 31, 1969, states that he is a Polish citizen; all other biographic information is the same as previously stated except for a variation in the spelling of his mother's maiden name, which is given as GAZALABOW. HANFF also indicated a fluency in English and at least seven European languages.

A petition for the admission of her son and his family, was filed by Mary GAZELLE, in May 1962. This form gives her maiden name as HANFF and reflects a name change from Maria GASALABOWA to Mary GAZELLE by Court Decree.

Konstanty HANFF's entry was sponsored by one Daniel PFEIFFER, a naturalized American citizen residing at 73-15 72nd Street, Glendale, New York. PFEIFFER was born May 9, 1901, in Hungary and immigrated to the U.S. in 1950. He claimed to be a friend of HANFF.

Included with HANFF's application for immigration, was a separate sheet detailing some incidents of arrest and imprisonment. Briefly, these were:

1. March 4, 1944, at age 17, arrested by the Gestapo in Warsaw on a charge of espionage. Released after several hours when charge was considered unfounded.
2. July 1944, while serving with the 153rd Division Wehrmacht in Romania, sentenced to two years hard labor for desertion. After one month in prison, the sentence was changed to service in special front battalions of rehabilitation.

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3. February 1945, captured by the Soviet army in Kurland, Latvia and imprisoned near Moscow from March 10, 1945, to April 1946; from April 1946, because of anticommunist propaganda and attempted flight, in Central Prison number 2, Butryki, Moscow, until March 1947; then sentenced to 7 years at Perm Ural; in February 1948, deported to Poland.

4. In 1950, arrested by Security Service in Wroclaw, Poland and sentenced to 7 months (charge not indicated).

5. In 1962, a "short suspended sentence", for a quarrel with a milice (sic) functionary.

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